

Message Text

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2537

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR NATO CSCE PARM BE GE

SUBJ: GDR AND BELGIAN VIEWS ON CSCE AND MBFR

1. AT MAY 6 POLADS, BELGIAN REP GAVE SUMMARY OF APRIL 22CON-
VERSATION IN BRUSSELS BETWEEN VISITING GDR DEPUTY FOREIGN
MINISTER NIER AND BELGIAN MFA DIRGEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS
DAVIGNON. CONVERSATION COVERED CSCE AND MBFR, WITH FOLLOWING
HIGHLIGHTS:
CSCE.

-- ON BASKET I, NIER SAID GDR POSITION IS THAT ALL TEN
PRINCIPLES HAVE EQUAL VALUE, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT TO AVOID A
FUTURE SITUATION IN WHICH ONE STATE MIGHT TRY TO INVOLKE
ALLEGED NON-RESPECT OF ONE OF THE PRINCIPLES BY OTHER STATES
AS JUSTIFICATION FOR ITSELF NOT RESPECTING CERTAIN PRINCIPLES.
GDR REP CONTINUED THAT THE IN-VIOLABILITY OF FRONTIERS PRIN-
CIPLE DOES NOT EXCLUDE PEACEFUL CHANGE, PROVIDED SUCH CHANGE
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IS IN CONFORMITY WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW, IS PEACEFUL, AND IS
AGREED TO BY THE PARTIES CONCERNED. DAVIGNON REPLIED THAT THE
TEN PRINCIPLES FORM A COHERENT WHOLE AND SHOULD BE APPLIED
WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS OF ANY SORT.

-- ON CBMS, NIER ADVANCED THE STANDARD SOVIET "VOLUNTARY BASIS" THESIS. DAVIGNON NOTED THAT WHILE THERE HAS BEEN SOME MOVEMENT ON CBMS IN GENEVA, THE RESULTS SO FAR HAVE BEEN MEAGER. DAVIGNON OPINED THAT THE MILITARY VALUE OF CBMS WOULD BE SLIGHT AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE WOULD BE PRIMARILY POLITICAL. HE ADDED IT WAS IMPORTANT TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THE PARAMETERS QUESTION.

- ON BASKET II, NIER URGED ACCEPTANCE OF MFN.

-- ON BASKET III, THE GDR REP SAID POSITIVE RESULTS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED, BUT HIS COUNTRY COULD NOT ACCEP THE "COLD WAR" CONTENT OF "CERTAIN" RADIO BROADCASTS.

2. ON STAGE III, NIER SAID THE FINNS NEEDED TO BE INFORMED QUICKLY OF PROSPECTIVE TIMING TO ALLOW THEM TO PLAN ADEQUATELY. HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE GDR DID NOT WANT TO SEE ARAB COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT STAGE III. DAVIGNON COMMENTED THAT IT WOULD BE INADVISABLE TO TRY TO CONCLUDE THE CSCE NEGOTIATIONS IN A RUSH BY LUMPING ALL THE BASKETS TOGETHER; THE BASKETS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE TREATED SEPARATELY.

3. TURNING TO MBFR, DAVIGNON SAID PROGRESS WAS NEEDED IN VIENNA SO AS NOT TO COMPROMISE THE CHANCES FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF CSCE. HE OBSERVED THAT, FACED WITH THE RIGIDITY OF EASTERN POSITIONS ON MBFR, WESTERN PUBLIC OPINION MIGHT DRAW NEGATIVE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE REAL INTENTIONS BEHIND THE WARSAW PACT'S DETENTE POLICIES. BRUCE

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